



EASTERN IOWA DX ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FALL 1985

DX Net - Sunday 9:00am

W4NIM REPTB 144.59/145.19

EIDXA OFFICERS

President: Tom White KOVZR
Vice President: Wade Walstrom WOEL
Secretary: Gary Toomsen KOST

MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 1985

Picnic held at W4NIM home.

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 pm by President KOVZR.

Those present were: KOGVB, KOST, KOVZR, KBOPR, KEQY, W4NIM, KOPSC, and NCOO.

KOST displayed the Northern California DX Membership certificate received for the \$41.00 donation toward the Clipperton DXpedition.

KBOPR reported on the EVARC August 4, 1985 Hamfest and FCC exams to be given on August 3, 1985 at Hawkeye Downs.

KEQY reported that he is chairman for a hamfest to be held at the Muscatine County Fairgrounds in West Liberty on October 13, 1985.

KBOPR moved for adjournment and W4NIM seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm.

A "Left Foot" CW sending contest was held and first place went to KOGVB, second place to KOVZR and the booty prize to NCOO. Thanks to KOPSC.

The program was on Packet Radio and was presented by W4NIM.

MEETING NOTICE

The next regular meeting of the Eastern Iowa DX Association will be held at 7:30 PM on Friday, September 20, 1985 at the Linn County REC Building in Marion. This is an important meeting since membership dues are due and officers will be elected. The program will be a video tape presentation of the 6YS/KP1 Navassa DXpedition.

HOT 100 Updates Due!!!

Once again it is time to update your HOT 100 listings! The rules are the same. Pass your updates to me in person, on the twisted pair, 5.19, simplex, letter, post card, net, rtty bulletin board, etc. no later than 12 noon Thursday, September 19 so that I can have them read by the meeting on Friday.

Last time 6 members were dropped from the HOT 100 because they had not provided updates for two consecutive reporting periods. If you name and call has the dreaded * adjacent to them on the current HOT 100, you must submit an update this time or you will also be just HOT 100 history.

See you at the meeting!

73,

Wade, WOEL

From the Pres --

The fall DXing season is coming as are the fall contests. I hear talk of antennas and towers often as I'm tuning. It's sure that strategies will be different. We need to be thinking about our club effort. Do we want to have some in-club or between-club challenges? What's the best way to raise the level of interest? We know it'll be a struggle. We need to be sure we're survivors of the sun spot ebb, not victims.

It's been a pretty fair DXing year. CE0AA last fall and FO0BX this spring plus new countries accepted like ZC4 and XL7/P (Is this a country yet?). Will ZA, C9, 5A, 3Y and 6D come on this year? I hope we'll all be active and ready.

One of the major club efforts this year needs to be recruiting new members. As our ages and country counts rise, some of our enthusiasm for long contests and midnight tuning dies. We'll need fresh faces and ideas to prosper. Bring your ideas and potential members to the September 20 meeting. Perhaps we can send emissaries to the more conventional clubs with forms in hand and a short invitation.

I'll see you on 5.19 and September 20. Remember the net at 9:30 local time Sunday nights.

73,

Tom KOVZR

QSLs ! ! ! !

Well, at long last we are ready to print a batch of QSLs for the membership of EIDXK! In response to many requests, I am offering the QSLs in lots of 1000 rather than 3000 as we have done in all previous batches. I believe that our price is cheaper than you will find at any commercial QSL printer -- I requested quotes from each and every printer that advertises in QST, resulting in prices for 1000 cards ranging from \$38 to \$49. I think that we have a nearly unbeatable price, combined with excellent quality! I will be at the meeting September 20 and will be happy to accept your orders at that time. If you cannot make the meeting, please mail your order before Saturday, September 21st to be sure to have your cards included in this order. (The note on the order blank about prices being subject to change applies only if we do not get at least 8 orders -- they will be about \$2 higher per batch in smaller lots.)

73, Craig, K0CF

*
* FOR SALE *
*

TENTEC Argonaut 509

includes: Power Supply, CW filters, MFJ Tuner,
and Microphone

\$230

Heathkit Antenna Switch SA-1480 with 75-80 feet of
control cable.

\$80

Micromatch SWR Bridge with Remote Meter \$25

MFJ 482 Memory Keyer \$35

Heathkit 12 VDC 2 Amp Power Supply \$20

Heathkit 12 VDC 7 Amp Power Supply \$40

Low Pass Filter - 100 Watt \$5

Johnson KW Low Pass Filter \$20

Vibroplex Presentation Bug \$20

Heathkit VHF SWR Bridge \$20

if interested, contact Tom, KOVZR

REAL ESTATE AND THE RADIO AMATEUR

by Ray Jennis, W0DQ

As an amateur and a real estate broker, I have made some observations that should be taken into account when purchasing property. We can't all afford that ideal QTH with a two acre antenna farm sitting up on the hill, but there are locations in all price ranges that would make good ham QTH's.

Elevation above average terrain is an obvious factor, especially for VHF and UHF work. For HF, being somewhat above the immediate surroundings and in the clear would be the most important things. Before purchasing, find out if there are any antenna height restrictions imposed by the city, county or -- in the case of many new housing developments -- in the form of protective covenants. These covenants would be on file at the courthouse.

Some of the new developments allow no outside antennas -- it might be hard to get a TH-6 in the attic. Being near an airport poses some additional restrictions in antenna height -- especially in the flight path.

Look for probable generators of interference, such as power lines, commercial properties or a neighbor with an arc welder, etc. Are the power lines underground? The noise is usually lower in these areas; however, prices may be higher. How close together are the houses? The closer your neighbor is, the greater chance for you to bother each other. Again, price may dictate a compromise in this area.

Generally, a QTH in close proximity to a broadcast station is not a good idea, especially an AM station. All it takes is one bad connection in the antenna system and you could have Loretta Lynn singing all over the 40-meterband.

Trees may be a help in supporting wire antennas, but too many can make it difficult to get in the clear. Would you want to remove some trees?

A wire antenna should never have to cross a power line. Along this same line, if you are going to put up a tower, it should be in such a place that it won't blow down across a power line.

The house should have at least 220 volt 100 amp service. This code in most areas. If not, you may want to take the cost of installation into consideration.

Where are you going to put the shack? Does the XYL (or DM) have other plans for the same room? It might pay to discuss this. If the shack is to be in the basement, is it dry? How will the feedlines be routed outside? Also how close is the nearest amateur? If he

is close and active, you may blow each other off the air, or may have to restrict your operation to separate bands sometimes.

I am sure there are other considerations, and of course, the regular ones you would have in purchasing a house as a non-amateur. If you find a good QTH, your next job is to sell the XYL or DM on the place.

HINT: With a super ham QTH, you will be staying home more.

RENEW YOUR ARRL MEMBERSHIP THROUGH THE EIDX

Remember that the EIDX is a 1992 ARRL membership affiliated club and to make this a good proposition for our club your ARRL membership renewal done through the club treasurer nets the club a \$2.00 commission for the \$25.00 annual ARRL membership fee. ARRL membership is a requirement for EIDX membership and by renewing your ARRL membership through the EIDX you support both organizations.


WDEI
WADE WALSTROM
7431 MACON DRIVE N.E.
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52401

Jim Spencer WOSR
3712 Tanager Drive NE
Cedar Rapids IA
52402

SEVENHUNDRED JIM
FIVEHUNDRED

EASTERN IOWA DX ASSOCIATION

QSL Cards




KCØXK

LINN COUNTY, WAS WAC DXCC

QSO WITH	DATE			UTC	RST	MHz	2-WAY
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR				

PSE
QSL
TNX

Brian Joy
5750 Country Lane N.E.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401 USA



Sample QSL Card

All cards will be exactly in this format, with all personalized information in dark red and the report block, EIDX logo, ARRL logo, etc. in blue, all on a white card.

1000 QSL cards, including type-setting, sales tax and U.P.S. shipping to your QTH will cost: \$28.00

Each additional 1000 will cost \$26.00. (Please note that these prices are subject to change, depending upon how many orders are placed!)

Please return the order blank below with your check payable to:

Craig F. Fastenow, KØCF
1207 Wylde Green Road
Iowa City, IA 52240

Please mail by September 21, 1985 to have your cards included on this order. Delivery will be about October 21, 1985.

------(detach here)-----

EASTERN IOWA DX ASSOCIATION

QSL CARD ORDER BLANK

Callsign: _____ Quantity: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Information for the line below your call (County, Zone, Awards, etc.), 40 characters maximum, including spaces:

RTTY RBBS HAS A NEW LOCATION.....de WOMJN

On August 1, 1985, the 2-meter RTTY RBBS (Radio Bulletin-Board System) was moved from W4NIM's QTH to WOMJN's. The reason for the move was a receiver desensitization problem caused by the EIDX 145.19 repeater transmitter, which is also located at W4NIM's. We gave some consideration to either getting a bigger antenna, or moving the RBBS antenna from Bob's roof to his tower (with the repeater antenna); but these ideas were dropped because it was felt that bigger and/or higher would make the desensitization problem worse, not better.

In the last six weeks since the move, activity on the RBBS has more than tripled; with the system having been accessed more than 175 times. KF0Z says he now has no trouble using the system from Mount Vernon and K0JGH has become one of the "regulars" from Ottumwa. The RBBS currently contains a variety of information including DX/QSL information, propagation forecasts and bulletins, ARRL Bulletins, items for sale/trade, "QRZ DX" and "The DX Bulletin" highlights, an RTTY Want List, as well as general information and user-to-user messages. If you have a home computer, and are not yet using the RBBS, you are really missing a lot of fun, and maybe some good information too.

For those of you with a computer RTTY system (or ASCII RTTY gear), the RBBS is quite easy to use. Simply set your system to 110 baud ASCII, tune your 2-meter radio to 147.45 simplex, and transmit the turn-on command :WOMJN(C/R) to the system. The RBBS will answer and will ask you to log-on. Listed below are a few commands to get you started. Once you are logged-on, COMMANDS will get you the full list. Please remember that all commands must be started with a colon (:) and terminated with a carriage return (C/R).

:WOMJN(C/R)--RBBS Turn-on
:DIR(C/R)--Sends Message Directory
:HELP(C/R)--Sends Short List of Commands
:COMMANDS(C/R)--Sends Full Command List
:READ(NR)(C/R)--Plays Msg.(NR)
:BYE(C/R)--Turns RBBS Off

The WOMJN-RBBS consists of the following equipment (Apple and Kantronics gear provided by W4NIM):

Computer-----Apple II+
Disk Drives-----Apple (Two Of Them)
Monitor-----Apple 13" Green
Terminal Unit-----Kantronics
Radio-----Midland 13-510 (25 Watts)
Antenna-----5/8 Wave Ground Plane (On The Roof)

When we get out of the summer storm season, the RBBS will be switched to the Ringo Ranger on the top of the tower at 58 feet. This should provide much better coverage to those of you in the outlying areas.

Keep in mind that the more users we have using the RBBS and putting information on it, the more useful it becomes for all users. So spread the word and come join the RBBS gang on 147.45.